

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER No. 240

February 1986

RSGB PRESIDENTIAL INSTALLATION 1986 - by Dick G3WHR.
This was held at Furze Hill, Margaretting, on Saturday 18th January and was a well attended event with approximately 170 people present, some 40 of them being CARS members.

After being welcomed at the door by Willie and his wife, we enjoyed a pre-dinner drink in the conservatory. We soon discovered some ex-CARS members also present; Peter Blair, Keith Fisher, and Bill & Doreen Pechey.

After a short introductory speech, the retiring president, Mrs Joan Heathershaw, presented Willie with the chain of office.

Willie then told us of his early experiments with radio, helping his grandfather in N Ireland. No mains power then - the HT was provided by series batteries. Developing an interest in vhf, Willie moved to Essex, only to find no hills and no activity. It didn't take him long to find some like-minded people and to form a highly successful vhf contest group.

Participating in, and organising contests led Willie to the RSGB.

Willie then presented some official badges, starting with Joan Heathershaw as immediate past president.

At this point, our President Roy G3PMX stepped up to the microphone to present Willie with a handwritten scroll, (reproduced here in miniature) giving him Life Membership of CARS in recognition of his services to Amateur Radio. Roy also presented Willie with a cheque, and there was much mirth when Roy revealed that it was Willie's own cheque for his CARS subscription.

A further speaker, Terry Barnes, G13U88, hinted that Willie had been planted in the RSGB as a 'sleeper' and that now he was president he could revert to being G13VPK.

We were then served an excellent meal, well worth the £4 ticket, with plenty of time to chat and take a few photographs. There was also time to examine the chain of office, which has engraved brass plaques with the names of all past presidents. Willie's name will join those of A.A.Campbell Swinton, 1913-1920; and Oliver Lodge, 1925.

At the end there was a group photograph of all CARS members present, including Willie. Sadly one face was missing, Ela G6HKM having developed pneumonia earlier in the week.

Our best wishes to Willie for a very enjoyable and successful year as RSGB President.

NEXT MEETING - B.N.O.S. ELECTRONICS

Lawrence Hobbs, G6FQE, and Andy Sharpe, G8UYN, from BNOS Electronics in Dunmow will present a two part talk on the activities of their company. The first part will deal with the history & philosophy behind BNOS and its products, while the second part will look at their products from a more technical viewpoint, illustrated by demonstrations.

BNOS is a rapidly growing enterprise, which specialises in producing high quality power supplies and VHF/UHF linear amplifiers. In fact, it has been so successful that it has recently moved to new, larger premises.

As usual the meeting commences at 7:30pm in the Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford, on the first Tuesday of each month: 4th February, this time.

There is also a special prize in the Cumulative Bumper Raffle: a nice new crisp £5 note (No, the ink is not still wet!).



Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Honorary Life Membership

Presented to

WJ McClintock, M. Sc. G3.VPK.

On the occasion of his
Installation as the president of
the Radio Society of Great Britain
on the
18th of January 1986

In recognition of his devoted service
to amateur radio.

Signed President *J.R. Murphy*
Chairman *R. Smith*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4 Feb. - B.N.O.S.
21 Feb. - Arrow Electronics visit
4 Mar. - Mobile Radio, G3YTE.
1 Apr. - Chelmsford Urban Traffic Control

LAST MEETING - FILM EVENING - Brian, G0BDS

It doesn't seem a year ago since we all sat down to watch videos and films in the dark. Have you ever tried making notes in the dark, so that the write-up for the Newsletter can be compiled? Well, I can tell you it's not very easy - even though it is a good excuse for bad spelling... (I must take a torch next time!)

This year's viewing ranged from Hi-tech, in the form of satellite launches on Ariane rockets, to Rustic-tech, or Arthur, G3KPJ, launching arrows over tall oak trees to raise wire aeriels.

A Ferranti video explained the uses that 1W to 10kW lasers could be put to in welding and cutting, even if it did not show the basic technology behind their operation. This contrasted with the video from British Aerospace on "TERPROM" which tried, perhaps in vain, to clue us up on TERain PROfile Matching, an accurate navigation aid for military and civil aircraft.

Next followed the "OSCAR Phase 3B" video, which gave a potted history of OSCAR-10's life, from early design concepts, through assembly and testing (how would you like to be shaken at random and plunged to -20 degrees Celsius from +70, just to prove you were OK?), then on to the launch from the French space centre at Kourou in French Guiana, South America. The only faults found, it was said (assuming you could keep up with the narration), were a capacitor and a plastic screw. It was interesting to hear that £150,000 of its £400,000 cost was contributed by Amateurs worldwide. I wonder who gave the rest?

The first Amateur transmission from space, by astronaut Dr Owen Garriot, W5LFL, and all the excitement that went with it were the subjects of the next video. To see the faces of those who had just worked W5LFL was a landmark in history in itself. Even a reigning Middle Eastern monarch clamoured for an Extra-Terrestrial QSL card! It shows what can be done with a loop aerial and a handheld when you have line-of-sight to an eighth of the globe at any time. I wonder if EMC tests were made to check that the windscreen wipers worked afterwards, or that the space invader display didn't suffer from TVI during transmissions.

As in cinemas of old, the main feature came last. In full technicolour and hi-fidelity sound (apart from the gaps) we enjoyed "HF Field Day 1985", a G3WHR production. As in previous years, Howletts Hall Farm, Blackmore, was the site, with clear blue skies, no wind, and nice and warm. It was good to relive the despair, frustration and relief as the telomast foundered, only to rise again to new heights when corrections had been made to the rigging, and probably the riggers.

It was nice to see all those faces on site pushing and pulling, and not just when Dick's cine camera was pointing in their direction.

Well, that's over for another year, and our thanks must go, of course, to Les G4CUT for the VCR and to Dick G3WHR for production equipment and the "Big M" for the monitors.

SATELLITE TELEVISION IEE LECTURE - John, G8MKX

John Donnithorne, G8MKX, will be repeating his most successful presentation on Satellite Television as a Lecture to the Institute of Electrical Engineers on Wednesday, 19 February 1986, at the English Electric Valve Company premises in Waterhouse Lane, Chelmsford. It will start at 6:30pm.

Anyone who missed this at the December club meeting, or who would like to see it again, is welcome to attend. As before, a spectacular live demonstration is included.

ARROW VISIT

May I remind you all of the visit to the premises of Arrow Electronics in Hatfield Peverel on Friday, 21 February 1986. It starts at 7:30pm until about 9:00pm.

This will be an ideal opportunity to see not only what new gear is available these days, but also to see and hear it in action. There is plenty of parking space, and tea or coffee will be available.

If you would like to come along, please give your name to a Committee member at the next meeting, as we need to make up the list of who is coming beforehand.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The February Committee Meeting will be held in the bar of the Marconi College at 7:30pm on Wednesday, 12 February 1986. As always, any member who wishes to come and see us in action, help, or just have a quiet drink and a chat, is most welcome to join us. We meet in the bar beforehand and then retire to a little room out the back, so as not to disturb the residents using the bar.

DF NEWS - The Snowman - Dick, G3WHR

There wasn't any snow but we had everything else - rain, howling gale etc. Paul hid G0BTH/P in a cutting on the old Witham to Maldon railway near Wickham Bishops, using lots of wire with false tee-ins to make up for the lack of cover.

Most teams obtained good bearings from the start at Fordham Heath and were soon on-site. Alan Williams showed us all how it should be done; after him it became a mad scramble reminiscent of the Maldon Mud race with people crossing from side to side through six inches of mud - definitely an occasion for wellies.

Afterwards, all found their way to 30 Rowan Drive for Tea.

Results:	1	Alan Williams	2:24	7	Dick Brocks	2:39.5
	2	Pat Cranmer	2:27	8	Jeff Herbert	2:40
	3	Frank Pearson	2:29	9	Peter Larbalestier	2:42
	4	Mike Hawkins	2:32	10	Mike Farmer	3:00
	5	Ian Butson	2:38	11	Mike Williams	4:26
	6	Roy Emeny	2:39	12	Pete Bishop	4:28

NEW MEMBERS.

The Society is pleased to welcome the return of Bill and Doreen Pechey, G4CUE and G8NMO.

73 from Ian, G4BYR.

Harlow 441244 (ex.307) (day)
(0279) 33049 (any other time)

40 Great Leylands,
Harlow, CM18 6HR.

WANTED

A Transformer with a 15V 2A secondary (240V mains primary).
Andrew, G4KQE, QTHR, Tel: (0376) 83094.

FOR SALE.

MARCONI MARINE BROADCAST RECEIVER TYPE 2235A.

Tropicalised for use on all types of vessel to provide world-wide reception and gramophone reproduction plus microphone facilities. Comprises tuner unit and power unit/10 watt audio amplifier. 115V or 205-245V, 40-80Hz.

Frequency Ranges.

Short waveband 1. 30.0 - 10.0MHz (10-30 metres).
Short waveband 2. 10.7 - 3.6MHz (28-82 metres).
Short waveband 3. 4.0 - 1.4MHz (75-215 Metres).
Medium waveband. 1500 - 517 KHz (200-580 Metres).
Long waveband. 375 - 136 KHz (800-2300 metres).

Bandspread Scales.

13 metre band 22.3 - 20.9 MHz
16 " " 18.5 - 17.4 "
19 " " 15.5 - 14.5 "
25 " " 12.1 - 11.4 "
31 " " 10.0 - 9.5 "
49 " " 6.3 - 6.0 "

Variable selectivity 5 positions with 9KHz audio filter, "Magic Eye" tuning and distortion indicators, bass and treble controls. At present fitted as a Radio/Gram in a vertical cabinet on castors, 12" speaker at bottom and BSR 4 speed automatic record changer at top. Handbook giving technical description, operating instructions, circuit diagrams, component parts lists and details of associated items of equipment. Good condition. £25.

MARCONI INSTRUMENTS DUAL-TRACE OSCILLOSCOPE TYPE TF 1331.

100-150V or 200-250V, 40-60Hz. 5" diameter CRT p1 phosphor (green). Y amplifier bandwidth DC to 15MHz. Sensitivity 7 ranges 50mV/cm to 50V/cm. Sweep generator 15 ranges 1u/sec to 10 secs. Handbook giving technical description, operating instructions, circuit diagrams and components parts lists. Good condition. £30.

WAVEMETER CLASS D. No.1 MKII.ZA17469.

This is the British army version of the US Signal Corps frequency meter BC 221 and was approved by the UK Licencing Authority as a frequency standard for UK Amateurs. It was originally battery operated but has been modified for use on 240V, 50Hz mains. The instrument produces 100KHz and 1MHz marker signals using internal separate quartz crystals and also gives direct calibration to 1KHz between 1.9 and 8MHz. An accurate check of transmitter or receiver frequency between 1.9 and 8MHz can be made and above by the use of harmonics. A spare valve is housed in the instrument. A copy of the original handbook is included giving a technical description, operating instructions, circuit diagram, spare components lists etc. Good condition. £10.

For all the above items apply to Bernard, G6RM, 13, Second Avenue, Chelmsford, CM1 4ET.
Chelmsford 352500.